activating a getter disposed in the vessel; and after activation of the getter, sealing the

9, Cond vessel by fusing a part of an evacuation tube for evacuating the inside of the vessel while heating the vessel.

4. (Amended) A method for manufacturing an airtight vessel according to Claim 3, wherein the evacuation step is executed simultaneously with at least one of the getter activation step, the heating step and the [searing] sealing step.

13. (Amended) A method for manufacturing an imageforming apparatus using an airtight vessel containing a plurality of electron emission elements and image-forming members comprising the steps of:

activating a getter disposed in a vessel; and

after activation of the getter, sealing the

vessel by fusing a part of an evacuation tube for evacuating the

inside of the vessel while heating the vessel.

forming apparatus according to Claim 22, further comprising the